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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: March 30, 1966

SUBJECT: Libyan Interest in Extending Aid

PARTICIPANTS: Tageddin Jerbi, First Secretary, Libyan Embassy
Albert Post, Officer in Charge, Economic Affairs, AFN
Hugh Campbell, Officer in Charge, Libyan Affairs, AFN

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Following up the request of Ambassador Abidia for information on the U. S. experience with respect to giving aid, on which the Libyans might draw in extending assistance to their less fortunate neighbors, Messrs. Post and Campbell made the following points to Mr. Jerbi:

1. The U. S. experience is not appropriate in our view to the Libyan case, since it requires a large organization and it deals in large volume.

2. However, we could put Mr. Jerbi in touch with appropriate AID personnel to answer specific questions about our economic assistance.

3. We have certain suggestions involving international organizations which Mr. Jerbi might find useful.

Mr. Jerbi was given the attached notes which we discussed with him. In subsequent questioning it appeared that the Libyans are responding to specific requests for assistance, probably from Tunisia and possibly from Chad. They are asking other countries for information on this subject, including Germany and the UK.

Mr. Jerbi expressed appreciation for this information and said he would inquire further if there were specific questions.

Attachment

AF:AFN:HKCampbell:cgw

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AID (US) LIBYA

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SUGGESTIONS ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

1. Certain printed material is available from the U. S. Agency for International Development (A.I.D.). This will indicate the scope of American aid and give some idea of the criteria applied for projects.

2. The IBRD is capable of identifying and supervising projects in numerous countries. We suggest an approach to the IBRD at a high level (Mr. Mike Hoffman).

3. The GOL may consider additional contributions, earmarked for specific countries, to the UN Specialized Agencies or in the form of joint loans for specific projects.

4. There is the possibility of government-to-government loans or grants for general use as agreed between the two governments concerned.

5. The OECD Secretariat (Development Department) can give information on small donor matters.

6. The Kuwait experience might be useful; we suggest it would be appropriate to obtain it directly from Kuwait officials.

7. The African Development Bank would appear to be a possible recipient of any financial assistance which GOL may wish to make. Both the African Development Bank and Asian Development Bank have authority to accept funds in trust for designated countries, as do UN specialized agencies.

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